GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:83
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGES
RAM SHAKAL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased minimum wages recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received some complaints regarding non-payment of minimum wages by various State Government and agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT OF REPLY IN RESPECT OF STARRED QUESTION NO.83 DUE FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SABH 25.11.2002.

(a) & (b): The Government has recently increased national floor level minimum wage to Rs.50/- per day w.e.f. 1.9.2002. Earlier, the minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act had been raised in scheduled employments of `mines` and `construction, maintenance of roads, building operations, laying of underground cables etc.` in the Central Sphere in January, 2002 (effective 1.10.2001). In the mines sector the wages ranged between Rs.52/- and Rs.111/- per day and in construction, maintenance of roads etc., between Rs.52/- and Rs.118/- per day.

(c) to (e): The enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is secured through the Officers of the Central Industrial Relations Machinery in the Central Sphere while in the state sphere, the implementation is ensured by the state enforcement machinery. The officers of these machineries conduct inspections of the establishments regularly and also investigate complaints and whenever they come across any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages they advise the employers to make payment of shortfall of wages. In the case of non-adherence, they file claims applications and take legal action as per provisions in the Act against the defaulting employers. Whenever, the Union Government receive complaints, the same are referred to the concerned State Governments asking them to take immediate action.